

United States Senate

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
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March 18, 2008

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I am writing in regard to the proposed plans to attempt to eradicate the Light Brown Apple Moth. I am particularly concerned about plans to repeatedly spray large, heavily populated areas over as many as five years.

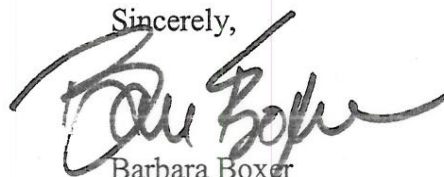
The control of exotic pests and diseases that could threaten California agriculture, ornamental plants, the nursery industry, and native plants has long been a concern of mine. However, I believe that it is critical to have an aggressive public education campaign, with public meetings in the affected areas to explain what is being proposed and answers to the public's questions before spraying commences.

I know that several Bay Area cities have already passed resolutions opposing spraying over their cities. They are concerned.

I hope that you will review the approach that has been taken to assure that appropriate questions are answered and that the public's concerns are heard.

I thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

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March 18, 2008

The Honorable Ed Schafer
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Schafer:

I am writing in regard to the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) oversight of the eradication program for the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) in the State of California.

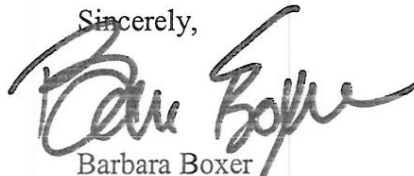
I have received numerous letters, emails, and phone calls from my constituents, including local elected officials and environmental organizations, about LBAM. They have all expressed concern with the proposed eradication plan, particularly with regard to the aerial application of CheckMate.

I understand that LBAM has the potential to become a very serious pest, as it has the ability to affect many crops and ornamental and native plants in areas where it could become established. However, I am troubled to hear the number of concerns regarding potential impacts to human health that aerial applications may bring.

Please clarify what kind of oversight the USDA has with regards to the State of California's eradication plan for LBAM. Please also clarify the details of USDA's review process for the approval and use of CheckMate.

This is a critically important issue to the many residents of California in the proposed treatment areas, so I look forward to your prompt response. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Tang in my San Francisco office at (415) 403-0129. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator